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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT APPLICATION: Lichkus et al

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Examiner: N. Lucchesi

For: DENTAL PRODUCT, KIT, SYSTEM AND METHOD

The Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

In the claims

Please cancel claims 1- 17 and 21- 25.

Please add claims 26 - 35 as follows

--26. A method of making a partial denture having a transparent clasp, comprising:

heating said first cartridge enclosing first particles of thermoplastic, said first particles of thermoplastic enclosed in said first cartridge being effectively free of pigment,

melting said first particles of thermoplastic to form first liquid thermoplastic material,

injecting said first liquid thermoplastic material into a first mold to form a transparent clasp,

positioning said transparent clasp in a second mold,

heating said second cartridge enclosing pigment and second particles of thermoplastic,

melting said second particles of thermoplastic to form a second liquid thermoplastic material, and

injecting said second liquid thermoplastic material into said second mold to form a partial denture having a transparent clasp.

27. The method of claim 26 wherein said thermoplastic is polyamide having a Charpy notched impact strength of at least 3.5 ft-lb/in².

28. The method of Claim 27 wherein said polyamide comprises at least 20 percent by weight of micro-crystals having a largest dimension less than 750 nanometers.

29. The method of Claim 27 wherein said polyamide comprises at least 30 percent by weight of micro-crystals having a largest dimension less than 750 nanometers.

30. The method of Claim 27 wherein said polyamide has an opacity of less than 30 percent.

31. A method of making a partial denture having a transparent clasp, comprising:

providing a kit comprising: a package, a first metal cartridge and a second metal cartridge, said package supporting said first cartridge and said second cartridge,

said first cartridge enclosing first particles of thermoplastic, said first particles of thermoplastic enclosed in said first cartridge being effectively free of pigment and

said second cartridge enclosing pigment and second particles of thermoplastic,

heating said first cartridge,

melting said first particles of thermoplastic to form first liquid thermoplastic material,

injecting said first liquid thermoplastic material into a first mold to form a transparent clasp,

positioning said transparent clasp in a second mold,

heating said second cartridge,

melting said second particles of thermoplastic to form a second liquid thermoplastic material, and

injecting said second liquid thermoplastic material into said second mold to form a partial denture having a transparent clasp.

32. The method of claim 31 wherein said thermoplastic is polyamide having a Charpy notched impact strength of at least 3.5 ft-lb/in².

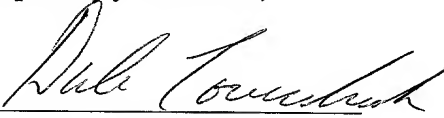
33. The method of Claim 32 wherein said polyamide comprises at least 20 percent by weight of micro-crystals having a largest dimension less than 750 nanometers.

34. The method of Claim 32 wherein said polyamide comprises at least 30 percent by weight of micro-crystals having a largest dimension less than 750 nanometers.

35. The method of Claim 32 wherein said polyamide has an opacity of less than 30 percent. --

REMARKS

Respectfully submitted,



DALE R. LOVERCHECK
Patent Attorney Reg. No. 28638

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Address of signer:
DENTSPLY INTERNATIONAL INC.
570 West College Avenue
York, PA 17405-0872
(717) 849-4472